

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested.

The examiner identified two groups of invention, Group I containing Claims 1-16, drawn to a fluid circuit for a hematology analyzer, classified in class 422, subclass 129 and Group II containing Claims 17-20, drawn to a method of transferring heat to a reaction chamber in a fluid circuit, classified in class 432, subclass 5.

Applicants provisionally elect the claims of Group I.

Applicants traverse the restriction requirement on the basis that the two groups of claims appear to be so interrelated that a search and examination of the claims of Group I would probably overlap or encompass the search field for the claims of Group II.

It is thus submitted that a simultaneous search for both groups of claims can be made without substantial increase of the search effort.

Accordingly, it is believed that the guidelines of MPEP Section 803 as cited below should be followed,

“If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.”

Withdrawal of the restriction requirement and simultaneous examination of both groups of claims are thus respectfully requested.

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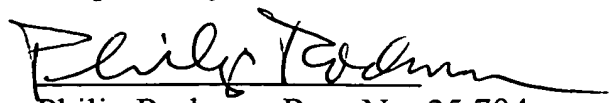
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Respectfully submitted,



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